(November 17, 1997) Testing

The Contractor shall make shotcrete test panels for evaluation of shotcrete quality, strength, and aesthetics. Both preproduction and production test panels, shall be prepared. All cores obtained for the purpose of shotcrete strength testing shall have the following minimum dimensions:

- a. The core diameter shall be at least 3 times the maximum aggregate size, but not less than 50 millimeters.
- b. The core height shall be a minimum of 1.5 times the core diameter.

The Contractor shall remove at least three cores from each 900 by 900 millimeter shotcrete test panel in accordance with AASHTO T 24. Cores removed from the panel shall be immediately wrapped in wet burlap and sealed in a plastic bag. Cores shall be clearly marked to identify from where they were taken and whether they are for pre-production or production testing. If for production testing, the section of the wall represented by the cores shall be clearly marked on the cores. Cores shall be delivered to the Engineer within 2 hours of coring. The remainder of the panels shall remain the property of the Contractor.

Pre-production Testing

At least one 900 by 900 millimeter panel for each mix design shall be prepared for evaluation and testing of the shotcrete quality and strength. One 1200 by 1200 millimeter qualification panel shall be prepared for evaluation and approval of the proposed method for shotcrete installation, finishing, and curing. Both the 900 millimeter and the 1200 millimeter panels shall be constructed using the same methods and initial curing proposed to construct the shotcrete facing, except that the 900 millimeter panel shall not include wire reinforcement. The 900 millimeter panel shall be constructed to the minimum thickness necessary to obtain the required core samples. The 1200 millimeter panel shall be constructed to the same thickness as proposed for the production facing. Production shotcrete work shall not begin until satisfactory test results are obtained and the panels are approved by the Engineer.

Production Testing

The Contractor shall make at least one 900 by 900 millimeter panel for each section of facing shot, or as many as directed by the Engineer. A section is defined as one day's placement. The production panels shall be constructed using the same methods and initial curing used to construct the shotcrete wall, but without wire reinforcement. The panels shall be constructed to the minimum thickness necessary to obtain the required core samples. If the production shotcrete is found to be unsuitable based on the results of the test panels, the section(s) of the wall represented by the test panel(s) shall be repaired or replaced to the satisfaction of the Engineer at no cost to the Contracting Agency.